L. E. MILLER.

COFFIN.

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1,189,156.

Patented June 27, 1916.

Fig. 1.

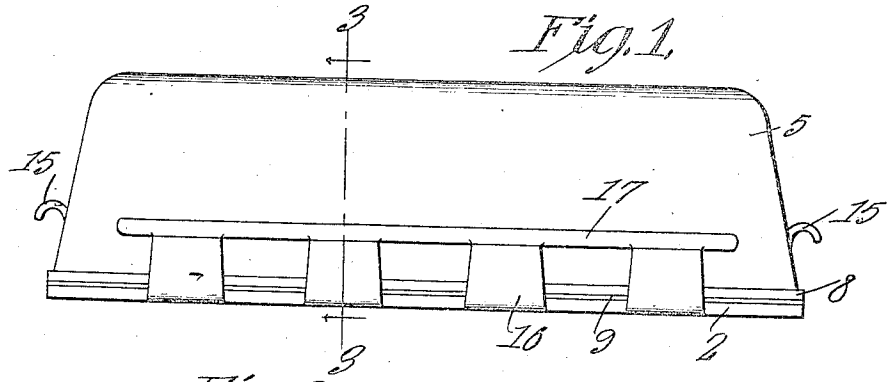


Fig. 2.

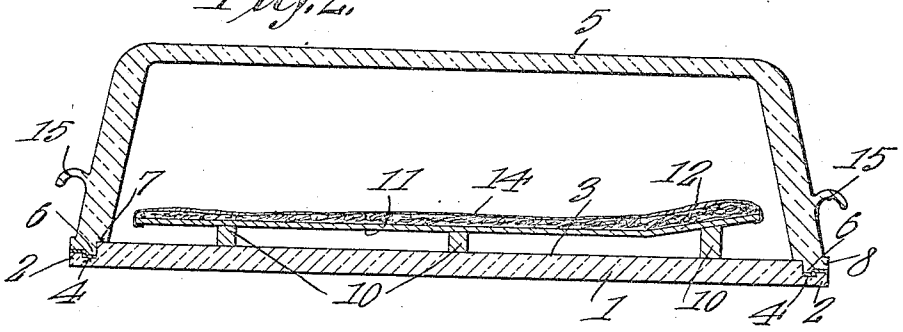


Fig. 3.

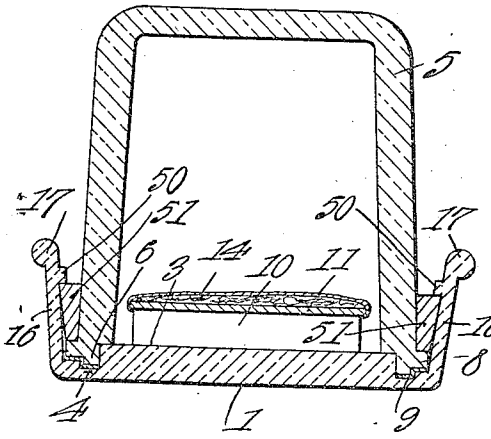
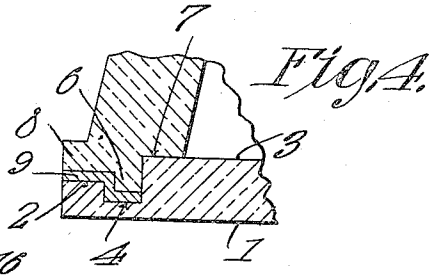


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COFFIN.

1,189,156. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 27, 1916.

Application filed April 14, 1916. Serial No. 91,145.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEWIS E. MILLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Neodesha, in the county of Wilson and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Coffin, of which the following is a specification.

The device forming the subject matter of this application is a coffin, and the invention aims to provide a device of this type so constructed that the corpse may be laid out on a flat base, a trough shaped cover being superposed on the base.

Another object of the invention is to provide a coffin made out of glass or fictile material, so that there will be nothing about the structure subject to decay or deterioration.

Another object of the invention is to provide a coffin that may be sealed up tightly, the construction, however, being such that the corpse may be viewed readily if the structure is made of glass.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel sealing joint between the base and the cover.

A further object of the invention is to provide novel means for assembling the handles with the base, when the base is made out of fictile material.

It is within the province of the disclosure to improve generally and to enhance the utility of devices of that type to which the present invention appertains.

With the above and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction, hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention, herein disclosed can be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 shows the invention in side elevation; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section; Fig. 3 is a cross section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 3; and Fig. 4 is a detail enlarged from Fig. 2.

In carrying out the present invention there is provided a base 1 having an upstanding marginal flange 2 and comprising a pallet 3 upstanding above the flange 2 and spaced laterally therefrom to define a groove 4.

The invention, includes, further, a cover 5 in the form of an inverted trough and of any desired cross section. The cover 5 is provided with a tongue 6 defining a shoulder 7. The shoulder 7 rests on top of the pallet 3 and the tongue extends into the groove 4. The cover, further, is provided with an outstanding flange 8 overhanging the marginal flange 2 of the base 1. A layer of cement 9 is placed in the groove 4 and along the upper edge of the flange 2, the layer above mentioned coöperating with the tongue 6 and the flange 8 of the cover. Owing to the construction above described, the cover may be securely sealed to the base.

Fixed to and upstanding from the pallet 3 are cross strips 10 upholding a support 11 including a head rest 12 and carrying a cushion 14, upon which the corpse may be placed. Formed integrally with the base 1 and projecting upwardly therefrom are brackets 16 carrying hand rails 17 extended longitudinally of the base. The brackets 16 have inwardly projecting shoulders 50. The ends of the cover may be equipped with depending hook-shaped handles 15.

It is contemplated that the device forming the subject matter of this application shall be fashioned throughout the fictile material or glass. If glass is used, the coffin may be sealed up, as indicated in Fig. 3, it being possible to view the corpse through the cover 5 which, if of glass, is of course transparent. The foregoing considerations are of importance, if the occupant of the coffin has died of a contagious disease. It is to be observed that the handles 17 and the brackets 16, along with the base 1, may be made in one piece of fictile material.

The device forming the subject matter of this application may be trimmed internally in any desired manner, the trimming being held in place by an adhesive.

Wedge blocks 51 may be inserted between the lugs or shoulders 50 on the brackets 16, and the flange 8. In this manner, the cover 5 will be held on the base 1. Owing to the fact that the trough-shaped cover 5 is inverted over the base 1, and since the pallet 3 upstands above the flange 8, water will not rise above the cover, and wet the corpse, even though the joint between the base and the cover should leak slightly. Since the cover 5 is of inverted trough shape, the air within the cover will be compressed and consequently the water will be

prevented from rising above the upper surface of the pallet 3.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:—

1. In a device of the class described, a base made of moldable material, the base including upstanding, integrally formed brackets, and longitudinal hand rails formed integrally with the brackets; and an inverted, trough-shaped cover superposed on the base.

2. In a device of the class described, a coffin comprising a base having a handle; a trough-shaped cover inverted on the base and provided with an outstanding element; and a removable holding member inserted between the handle and the outstanding element and constituting a means for holding the cover on the base.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

LEWIS E. MILLER.

Witnesses:

HARRY H. WOODRING,

H. B. HAYNES.